

Reminder: Next Council mtg. is October 11, 2001, 1:30 pm at Five Colleges, Inc.

Five College LIR Council
Minutes of the meeting of September 13, 2001
Held at Five Colleges, Inc., Amherst

Present for the Council were: Barbara Snoek (President), Chuck Gillies (Vice President and Temporary Secretary), Nick Leras (Treasurer), Ted Belsky (Past President), Hy Edelstein ('03), Nylda Glickman ('02), Bob Grose ('04), June Guild ('01 and Chair, Meetings Committee), Doris Leonard ('04), Norman Winston ('03) and Naomi Yanis (Co-Chair, Curriculum and '02).

Also present were Peg Bedell (Chair, Publicity), Pat Keating (Chair, Membership), Alexandra Leras (Co-Chair, Curriculum), Arthur Quinton (Chair, Conversations over Coffee), Eleanor Reid (Co-Chair, Winter & Summer Programs) and Linda Stairmand (Chair, Newsletter).

Missing for the Council: Jim Scott (Secretary), Connie Anderson ('03), and Ed Buck ('02).

Others missing: Suzanne Lehman (Co-Chair, Winter & Summer Programs) and Jean Stabell (Five Colleges, Inc.).

1. The meeting was called to order by the President, Barbara Snoek, at 1:33 PM.
2. Barbara called for a moment of "silent reflection" regarding the events of this week in New York and Washington. Afterwards she then asked each attendee to introduce him/herself with "something positive" about their recent lives.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting (July 12, 2001) were approved after correction of the date on the distributed copies.
4. Barbara asked that if anyone wishes to be on the agenda for the following meeting they should call or e-mail her at least a week before.
5. Under Old Business Nick Leras reported that there had been 29 Associate members in 2000 - 2001. Several members reminded him that we also requested information on how many members, or how much money, had been "used" by the "self selected scholarship" policy we had adopted a year ago. Nick will have this information at the October meeting.
6. Chuck Gillies distributed a paper, "5CLIR Committees, 2001-2002 DRAFT." He noted that the By-Laws require Council to appoint committees and that this was part of his effort to collect accurate information to submit to Council in October for approval. It was agreed that this should be the Vice-President's responsibility as, according to the By-Laws he/she, "Oversees the effective functioning and cooperation of Standing Committees...". Chuck also took this opportunity to explain the current committee structure (Seven standing committees plus a Nominating, with "Special Programs" being an umbrella committee, etc.). He also noted the importance of reaching out for new

members for all committees and urged Committee heads to organize their committees into three, three year classes. It was agreed that the committee list should be distributed at the September membership meeting together with a call for volunteers. Also it was agreed that Council members should have a copy of the By-Laws. {note: copy attached here - CKG}

7. Nick Leras, Treasurer, distributed a three page Financial Report for the Finance Committee. He noted that the report distributed was different than earlier 5CLIR reports, but that it represented a standard accounting report using double entry bookkeeping. He briefly explained the Balance Sheet as a listing of our Assets and Liabilities. Nick said that it is like a "freeze-frame of where we stand on June 30, 2001." If this is like "Point B" then a similar statement from June 30, 2000 is like "Point A." The next paper, the Statement of Income and Expenses explains how we got from Point A to Point B! Chuck Gillies asked about the footnote re "all of our funds into a savings account." He thought that earlier Treasurers had said we only earned interest on part of our money. It was agreed that Nick would try to clarify this. Nick noted that Karen Tatro is preparing a list of all our equipment so that the "equipment" list would be more complete. There was discussion of depreciation, but no one seemed to think it needed to be done. Nick explained that the Finance Committee would be endeavoring to clarify the guidelines for the Memorial and Donors Funds reserves.

Nick noted the surprising "profit" shown on the Income and Expense Statement (\$11,596.33), which is reduced by the amount equal to the purchase of the projector. Suspicions linger that this figure may be exaggerated, most likely by Summer Program expenses or other expenses not yet included. He said that he had had good conversations with Yvette Morneau, a CPA at Five Colleges, and felt confident that we would eventually get our figures to match with Five Colleges.

There was considerable discussion - even pleas - about the need for individual lines for various individual programs, e.g., special events, Great Decisions, Conversation over Coffee, Summer & Winter, etc. Nick said that the Finance Committee would be working on this problem.

Finally, Nick turned to the "Proposed Budget for the year ending June 30, 2002." After discussion and reflection it was agreed that we would call this a "Discussion Draft of the 2002 Budget" and that after further work with the Finance Committee and Five Colleges the budget would be presented at the October meeting.

8. It was suggested that 5CLIR make a donation to the Red Cross in recognition of the recent trauma. While a motion was made it was not seconded and the matter was dropped. {note: members, of course, can make individual contributions!}

9. June Guild reported for the General Meetings Committee that plans are underway for the September 25 Red Barn meeting. The main problem is the setting up of tables which inspired considerable discussion, especially as to whether or not we could hire someone to

assist. June agreed to look into the matter, but in the meantime Ted Belsky and Nick Leras agreed to be available for set-up. It was agreed that as far as the sound system goes that Karen will order it, probably David Moriarty will pick it up and David Navon will make it work!

10. Alex Leras and Naomi Yanis reported for the Curriculum Committee:

(1) Hampshire College has been confirmed for the Opera (enrollment now 60) and Genome (enrollment now 81) programs for all dates except October 19th. The Genome course will use our new LCD projector. There was discussion of who is scheduling the use of the new projector - whether Karen or the new Projector Committee. It was agreed that the Committee is to do this and that the Vice-President should confirm this with David Navon, Chair of the Committee. Also at this point Ted Belsky moved and Norm Winston seconded that,

Council expresses its appreciation to Ginny Senders for her creativity and perseverance in organizing the Human Genome seminar.

Approved unanimously.

There was clarification at this point of who votes in Council: Council members (max 9) and officers (5).

(2) The "Art Workshop," suggested by Lise Armstrong is now confirmed for Hampshire College on Monday mornings. This will be 'advertised' in the next Newsletter.

(3) Alex noted that "Appalachian Heritage" had to be cancelled because of Amy Johnson's illness, coming after Richard Hooke's passing.

(4) Alex noted that we needed proposals for the next term. At the September 25th meeting a "Blank Spring, 2002 Catalogue" will be distributed as a reminder to members that they are the source of all seminars! Also a questionnaire will be distributed to solicit ideas.

(5) Naomi Yanis discussed the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee that we change the Spring '02 schedule for production and distribution of the Fall '02 seminar catalogue. The reasons are primarily to resolve the crush in the office at that time and the long lag time from spring to fall. Naomi noted that there were several options for spring meetings and ways of distributing the catalogue. A motion was made with more discussion following, that,

Council change the Catalogue distribution date from early May to one month later in June in order to have the registration deadline in early July which also coincides with the beginning of the new fiscal year on July 1st.

Approved unanimously.

Naomi noted that while "one month" was called for it might be only a two week delay.

There was a suggestion that catalogues be available by e-mail, but no action was taken at this time.

(6) Naomi alerted Council to the fact that the Curriculum Committee may recommend a change in the Spring term calendar, delaying the whole term by one to two weeks. The Committee is collecting pros and cons and invites the same from Council members.

(7) Naomi reported that the registrations for classes are "extraordinarily high" this term, which is complimentary to 5CLIR, but a problem for the Committee that has to find more courses. She pointed out that several people had joined 5CLIR in order to participate in the Genome seminar a fact which may have implications for enrollment in the future.

(8) Naomi posed several questions that Curriculum Committee was contemplating: (a) should we try to look for other "block-buster" courses like the Genome or Encore Presentations? (b) should there be greater variety of courses, e.g. video courses or 'simpler' courses? and (c) should there be some more recognition for long term moderators?

6. Eleanor Reid reported for the Summer and Winter Programs Committee that there had been one minor complaint about one of the summer programs (stood too long!) and one disappointment in the Tanglewood soloists ignoring the audience, but that the Summer programs had been very well received. Eleanor reported that although Suzanne Lehman is making tremendous progress that she will not be able to continue as chair and that Eleanor, too, will not continue without her, plus they wanted to stop when they were ahead! She reported that they may have made as much as \$1400 on the Summer programs.

There was considerable praise for Eleanor's and Suzanne's work this summer.

7. Hy Edelstein reported for the Computer Group. He said that they are working on two programs: (1) another computer workshop at Smith which they will try to do during the Smith 'intersession' and (2) once or twice during the term they will have a 'gathering' of computer users, experienced and novice, for discussion and problem solving.

8. Arthur Quinton, new Chair of Conversations over Coffee, reported that their next two sessions are set: October 18th, "Sharing Favorite Poems" at Applewood and November 15th, Making Transitions: Establishing a New Home" at Lathrop Easthampton.

9. Ted Belsky reported that he had just spoken to Florence Barondes who had been arranging a foreign trip - probably to Turkey - for next spring. She suggested that we delay to the 2002-03 year. An informal vote of 12 - 1 agreed that it should be postponed. It was noted that Elderhostel had reduced the required number that we would have to provide to 14.

10. Linda Stairmand reported that the next Newsletter will be mailed Monday, Sept. 17th and the following target date is November 1. She made a plea for Committee Chairs and anyone involved in programs to do articles for the Newsletter.

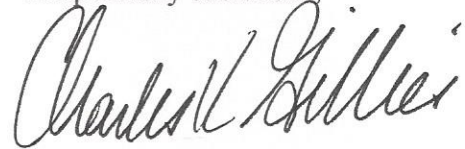
11. Pat Keating reported for the Membership Committee that there are 33 new members this year with 196 full time members total. Pat reminded us of the long term importance of the Membership Committee, but that they have trouble finding a meeting time now. She stated that she expected the Committee to concentrate on current membership this year. They plan some kind of coffee hour for new members. Norm Winston mentioned how he and Charlotte have tried to help older members who might have otherwise dropped out reach programs and classes.

12. Peg Bedell, reporting for the Publicity Committee, said that information had gone to the Five College calendar for the first Conversations over Coffee. She has talked to the powers-that-be at the Gazette and they feel the Genome project is excellent and should bring us good coverage.

13. Our next meeting is set for October 11.

14. Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles K. Gillies,
Temporary Secretary

Distributed at the meeting were:

1. Agenda
2. Five College Learning in Retirement Committees, 2001-2001 DRAFT Sept 10, 2001.
3. Five Colleges - Learning in Retirement Balance Sheet, Statement of Income and Expenses and Proposed Budget.

Also included with these minutes is a copy of the 5CLIR By-Laws, as approved 5-11-00.